

Today, we honor the heroism and patriotism posthumously of Sylvan Siegal, but we also pay tribute to the unsung heroism and patriotism of the American Jewish servicemen of World War II.

Before these men could engage the true enemy, they had to battle anti-Semitism while trying to enlist and later, when confronting the prejudices of their fellow soldiers who believed Jews were cowards, poor soldiers, and poor leaders. These Jewish GIs would go on to prove themselves in battle, but first they would be forced to fight for their comrades' respect as soldiers.

Dietary restrictions presented a challenge to traditional Jews. They were "eating Ham For Uncle Sam". "Uncle Sam" virtually ignored the ancient dietary restrictions of Jews, and many had to eat ham or starve.

Jewish service in World War II transformed Jewish world views. The transformation began during military training where many Jews broke out of their insular ethnic world and discovered the diversity of America.

Serving in World War II made American Jewish soldiers feel both more Jewish and more American. Many anti-Semitic soldiers were also racist. The seeds for the Black-Jewish alliance of the 1960s were sown during World War II.

Jews were fighting not just for their country, but also for the fate of European Jewry. Their Jewishness resonated as they searched for European Jews while on leave and then saw their worst fears confirmed in the emaciated bodies at the concentration camps.

Prior to the War, both Judaism and Catholicism had been outsiders to the American dream. Judaism assumed an American legitimacy unanticipated at the start of the war. Protestantism, Catholicism, and Judaism were deemed to share common values that made them the religions of democracy. Acceptance of the Judeo-Christian tradition in the armed forces would force Protestants to share the Christian label with Catholics and to include Jews as equal partners in America.

For post-war generations, the experience of the war changed the generation that fought it and helped launch the civil rights movement, the Great Society, and America's rise to global predominance.

For the Jewish people, patriotism, sacrifice and justice were the cherished ideals of a people who seek peace, but they were ready and are ready today, to sacrifice and pay a very great price for real peace.

May that peace come speedily in our time.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Sylvan Siegal for his dedication to our country, the military and to his faith.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF NANCY JONES AFTER 36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CONGRESS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 2, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize and thank Nancy Jones upon her retirement from the Congressional Research Service after 36 years of service to Congress. Ms. Jones has worked with issues regarding the rights of individuals with disabilities since she began her career at CRS in 1975, the same year the Education for all Handicapped Children Act, now the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), was enacted. She has been part

of every reauthorization of IDEA, working on issues relating to attorneys fees, the provision of services to infants and toddlers, and even the change in the name of the statute. In addition to work during reauthorizations, Ms. Jones has worked with congressional staff to provide insight regarding the implications of other statutes on the education of children with disabilities. For example, she analyzed the implications of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for these students, especially regarding the maintenance of effort provisions in IDEA, and she has been a part of bicameral, bipartisan briefings in preparation for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization.

In addition to education issues, Ms. Jones worked on the enactment of the first major civil rights act for individuals with disabilities, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and in the more recent ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA). Prior to the 1990 enactment of the ADA, she participated in regular meetings with bipartisan staff thinking through how the ADA could be structured to best protect the rights of individuals with disabilities while not unduly burdening private entities. Because of her work, she was thanked in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and was privileged to attend the White House ADA signing ceremony. Following enactment, she continued to inform Congress on the Supreme Court decisions about the ADA, and the regulatory and enforcement issues under the ADA. She wrote numerous reports and memoranda and assisted staff in understanding the Supreme Court decisions which were the impetus for the ADAAA and the implications of proposed legislative language.

After Hurricane Katrina, Ms. Jones worked extensively with staff on the question of emergency protections for individuals with disabilities. During another emergency, the H1N1 influenza pandemic, she analyzed the implications of the pandemic on employment issues for individuals with disabilities as well as issues regarding the provision of scarce medical resources.

Ms. Jones has also worked extensively on issues relating to genetic discrimination which ultimately resulted in the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA). She analyzed whether ADA protections extended to genetic disorders, especially those that have not manifested, and addressed other issues unique to GINA.

This June, Nancy Jones will retire from CRS after 36 years of service. I commend Ms. Jones for her distinguished career and her dedication to ensuring a fully-informed legislative process, especially in matters involving the rights of individuals with disabilities. In any area where she was involved, the development of Federal law and the effectiveness of congressional oversight were well-served.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2017) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Chair, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's homeland security grant programs are dangerously underfunded in the legislation we are considering today. I rise in support of the amendment I have joined my friend and colleague from New York in offering which would restore funding to these critical programs.

When we debate and pass bills that fund the functions of the federal government, we have to make real decisions about what we believe are the priorities of our nation. In this bill, we see where funding for critical homeland security programs fall. In this bill, House Republicans have decided to cut more than \$1 billion from current funding from programs that go toward rail security, port security, and the Urban Areas Security Initiative. In this bill, House Republicans cut \$420 million for grants to firefighters and first responders.

Mr. Chair, I agree that we have to make tough decisions when it comes to funding the federal government. But balancing the budget on the backs of our nation's firefighters and first responders and at the expense of the security of our communities is irresponsible.

So, what are the Republicans' priorities? They choose to eviscerate funding for critical homeland security programs in order to fund tax cuts for big oil companies. They tell local fire departments that the federal government just can't afford to support them anymore, but then turn around and make sure that oil companies, who could collectively make more than \$140 billion in profits this year, are protected from paying their fair share.

Mr. Chair, those might be the priorities of the House Republicans, but they are not the priorities of the American people. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important amendment and letting our nation's firefighters and first responders know that we are standing up for them here in Washington while they are standing up to protect our communities back home.

REVEREND PHARIS EVANS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 2, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to honor and congratulate Reverend Pharis D. Evans on his 50th Anniversary as Pastor of Clark Road Missionary Baptist Church in Gary, Indiana. I can truly say that throughout his many years of service, Pastor Evans has been one of the most dedicated, distinguished, and committed citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District. He will be honored at a lifetime achievement celebration hosted by Clark Road Missionary Baptist Church on June 10, 2011.

Reverend Pharis Evans graduated from Haywood High School in Brownsville, Tennessee. His passion and interest in theology grew from the church services he attended as a child, and he knew from a very young age that he was destined to be a preacher. He

studied theology at Chicago Baptist Institute and continued his studies at Calumet College of Saint Joseph in Whiting. The first Sunday in April 1961, Pharis D. Evans became Pastor of Clark Road Missionary Baptist Church. For 50 years, Pastor Evans has administered spiritual guidance to his congregation that today includes more than 800 parishioners. He has positively impacted the lives of countless individuals through his spiritual teaching and generous nature. During his tenure, he has assisted the church and the community in numerous capacities. From 1963 to 2011, Reverend Evans has coordinated and maintained Radio Broadcast Outreach Ministry. From 2009 to 2011, he was appointed and has served as "Spiritual Advisor" for the Baptist Ministers Conference of Gary and Vicinity; and in 2008, Pastor Evans was awarded the prestigious community service Drum Major Award by the Gary Frontiers Organization. Additionally, he has served as President and Vice President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention for the state of Indiana. He also served as chaplain for the Gary Police Department. Because of his passion and remarkable leadership, Pastor Evans is a mentor for many young ministers and a counselor for pastors in search of guidance and direction. For his complete devotion to helping others in need of spiritual guidance, he is to be commended.

Personally, I am humbled to consider Pastor Evans a friend. My life and the lives of all those he has touched have been inestimably enriched by the wisdom of his words, his innumerable selfless acts of kindness, and his absolute devotion to Our Lord.

Equally important is Reverend Evans's beloved family. He has been married to Ann Evans for 60 years this October. They have five wonderful children (one deceased), nine grandchildren (one deceased), and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Reverend Pharis Evans for his lifetime of leadership and selfless service to others. Northwest Indiana and Clark Road Ministry Baptist Church have certainly been rewarded by the uncompromising loyalty he has displayed over the past 50 years. Throughout his tenure he has been the truest example of morality and wisdom, and he is worthy of the highest praise.

TRIBUTE TO WARREN SAVAGE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 2, 2011

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize someone who has dedicated their entire life to the service of their fellow citizen. This week, Warren H. Savage, Jr. will conclude his term as the Executive Director of the Santee, California Chamber of Commerce; a final chapter in a career that began fifty-five years ago when he first entered public service as a member of the United States Navy.

The Navy only marks the starting point for Warren, whose list of accomplishments is as distinguished as it is long. He served thirty-six years in the Naval Reserve, including four years on active duty, with his final twenty years of service as a commissioned Naval Officer.

Warren also served two states and several localities as a volunteer firefighter and instructor. His leadership roles over the course of his career, whether as a member of the military, a community volunteer or an advocate for the city of Santee, are a testament of selfless devotion.

To know Warren, it's necessary to reflect on his decision to join the Navy. We all know that Americans join the military for one of several reasons. In some cases, the decision is based on the education and benefits that are available. Others choose to serve in the interest of acquiring direction or discipline that might be missing in their lives. Then there are those who serve because they love America and believe in everything it stands for, which is exactly the type of person Warren is—a selfless patriot who understands that quality leadership and personal sacrifice are what defines this great country.

Warren's contribution doesn't end there. In fact, it's just the beginning of what would be many more years of public service in varying forms, including serving residents in both Virginia and California as a volunteer firefighter. He held positions as Assistant Chief and Deputy Chief in Burke, VA; Deputy Chief and Fire Chief in Annandale, VA, and Battalion Chief and Chief Training Officer for Fairfax County, VA.

Warren also trained his fellow volunteers as a National Fire Protective Association (NFPA) Instructor IV for the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Fire Programs, and served as a curriculum reviewer and writer for Virginia State Fire programs. He was also an adjunct instructor for the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and The Commonwealth of Virginia State Fire Academy.

Warren was instrumental in starting the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Volunteer Section and was a member of the IAFC Accreditation Development Group and served as a member of the Accreditation alpha site and team leader and member of beta site, as well as a peer assessor and team leader at on-site Accreditation of Fire Agencies. He was a contributing author of the Commission on Fire Accreditation International's (CFAI) "Fire and Emergency Services Self Assessment" manual as well as its "Exceeding Customer Expectation" manual.

Eventually, Warren and his wife Barbara found themselves together in Santee, California, where he would continue his life of dedicated service in both the business and firefighter community.

As Executive Director for the Santee Chamber of Commerce, he has worked diligently to promote good relationships with the City of Santee, the School Department, the Water Authority and businesses in the area. He also serves as a member of California's State Citizen Corps council, a statewide policy board and is the California State Advocate for Fire Corps under Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Warren is also the Chairman of the San Diego County Heartland Paramedic Program County Service Area. He also served on the Community Oriented Policy Committee since January 2008 and the Salary Setting Advisory Committee since January 2009. Warren has been involved with the Santee Collaborative since 1996 and chaired the Santee Redevelopment POC.

Warren's life has been defined by service to his fellow citizen. He might be retiring, but that

just means Warren will have even more time to do what he enjoys most: serving others. Call it a new chapter of that selfless pursuit he's shown for so many years.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Warren continued success in everything he does. And I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to such a great American.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL J. SCOTT BURHOE ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. COAST GUARD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 2, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rear Admiral J. Scott Burhoe, the 39th Superintendent of the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. Admiral Burhoe will retire from the Coast Guard after more than three decades of service to our Nation.

He considered his position at the Academy to be his dream job, and served as the first non-Academy graduate to lead the school in at least a hundred years. Admiral Burhoe has a strong passion for higher education. Burhoe stated on several occasions that being Superintendent of the Academy is "the only job he wanted in the Coast Guard". As Superintendent, he was well regarded by both the cadets and staff as being an open, honest, and caring leader with a strong vision for our Nation's "best kept secret" in higher education.

During his tenure he raised the Academy to the number one baccalaureate college in the North as ranked by U.S. News and World Report and the school had five Fulbright and three Truman scholars. He oversaw an increase in minority admissions, growing from 12 percent minority representation at the Academy in 2008 to 24 percent in 2010. As important, he stressed the critical need for the academy to be a part of the greater New London and southeastern Connecticut communities—and under his command, cadets could be found volunteering to help residents with their taxes, cleaning up the Long Island Sound, and mentoring children in local schools.

In discussing his next steps, Burhoe told the New London Day that "education is the key to moving the country forward, and I want to continue to be involved in it." It is fitting, then, that after he is relieved of command, Burhoe will serve as the 10th President of Fork Union Military Academy in Fork Union, Virginia, a college preparatory and military boarding school for young men founded in 1898.

Scott Burhoe was a valuable asset to the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Academy, the New London community and our Nation. He began his tenure at the Academy at a difficult time in the school's history, but worked tirelessly to instill a culture of character and integrity in the young cadets that will serve as the leaders of our Nation's Coast Guard long into the future. He has left his mark on thousands of cadets and played an integral part in shaping the next generation of Coast Guard officers. His passion for the service and the training of our Nation's future leaders will be missed.